Washington, D.C. 20520

DECLASSIFIED (A-232)
NOVEMBER 5 - 1982

Dear Congresswoman Roukema:

I refer to your letter of October 12 which forwarded a copy of your letter to The Honorable William H. Webster, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, requesting the FBI's assistance in the case of John J. Sullivan, Jr.

The Department is mindful of your desire to enlist the assistance of the FBI in resolving the disappearance of Mr. Sullivan. As you know, FBI polygraph experts recently examined several individuals who are charged with the murders of Mr. Michael P. Pearlman and Mr. Mark D. Hammer of the American Institute for Free Labor Development. This examination was made at the request of the Government of El Salvador. At that time, the Department had requested the FBI examiners through our Embassy in El Salvador to include questions relating to Mr. Sullivan in the polygraph examination. The FBI examiners explained that a polygraph examination has value only as a means of confirming existing investigative evidence or testimony against a specific suspect. Prior investigation had not implicated any of the AIFLD suspects as having knowledge relating to the disappearance of Mr. Sullivan. On those grounds, the FBI examiners declined to include questions relating to Mr. Sullivan during those examinations. I can assure you, however, that the Department remains alert to opportunities to bring the FBI's investigative expertise to bear on the question of Mr. Sullivan's disappearance.

You continue also to have my assurance of the Department's undiminished commitment to work toward a final resolution of this tragic case.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosure:
Correspondence returned.

The Honorable
Marge Roukema,
House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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